

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

105th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 188

July 17, 1997, 6:52 pm
Page S-7689 Temp. Record

HOLDER NOMINATION/Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: Nomination of Eric Himpton Holder, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice. Confirmation.

ACTION: NOMINATION CONFIRMED, 100-0

SYNOPSIS: Eric Himpton Holder, Jr., was born January 21, 1955 in New York City, New York. He received a B.A. from Columbia College in 1973 and a J.D. from Columbia Law School in 1976. His employment history includes the following: 1976-1988, Trial Attorney, U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Public Integrity Section; 1988-1993, Associate Judge, District of Columbia Superior Court; and 1993-present, United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.

Those favoring confirmation contended:

We are delighted to have the opportunity to vote on the nomination of Mr. Holder to serve as Deputy Attorney General. He is very well qualified for this post, and we do not know of the slightest opposition to his confirmation by any Member. Mr. Holder has a long and distinguished record in the law and in the administration of justice. He served for 12 years as a prosecutor in the public integrity section of the Justice Department's criminal division, where he successfully prosecuted numerous high-profile corruption cases. In 1988, he was nominated by President Reagan and confirmed by the Senate to serve as a judge on the D.C. Superior Court, where for the next 5 years he presided over hundreds of criminal trials. In 1993, President Clinton nominated and the Senate confirmed his appointment as the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, in which post he supervised 300 lawyers involved in criminal, civil, and appellate cases. He has now been nominated to serve as the second-highest ranking law enforcement official in the Nation.

The Deputy Attorney General plays a critical role in the day-to-day oversight, management, and administration of the Justice Department, typically handling the Department's most important and sensitive matters. The Deputy has ultimate responsibility for

(See other side)

YEAS (100)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (0)	
Republican (55 or 100%)		Democrats (45 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Hutchinson	Akaka	Johnson				
Allard	Hutchison	Baucus	Kennedy				
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Biden	Kerrey				
Bennett	Jeffords	Bingaman	Kerry				
Bond	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kohl				
Brownback	Kyl	Breaux	Landrieu				
Burns	Lott	Bryan	Lautenberg				
Campbell	Lugar	Bumpers	Leahy				
Chafee	Mack	Byrd	Levin				
Coats	McCain	Cleland	Lieberman				
Cochran	McConnell	Conrad	Mikulski				
Collins	Murkowski	Daschle	Moseley-Braun				
Coverdell	Nickles	Dodd	Moynihan				
Craig	Roberts	Dorgan	Murray				
D'Amato	Roth	Durbin	Reed				
DeWine	Santorum	Feingold	Reid				
Domenici	Sessions	Feinstein	Robb				
Enzi	Shelby	Ford	Rockefeller				
Faircloth	Smith, Bob	Glenn	Sarbanes				
Frist	Smith, Gordon	Graham	Torricelli				
Gorton	Snowe	Harkin	Wellstone				
Gramm	Specter	Hollings	Wyden				
Grams	Stevens	Inouye					
Grassley	Thomas						
Gregg	Thompson						
Hagel	Thurmond						
Hatch	Warner						
Helms							

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

Compiled and written by the staff of the Republican Policy Committee—Larry E. Craig, Chairman

the office of the Solicitor General, who represents the United States before the Supreme Court. He also has responsibility for all of the Department's civil and criminal divisions, including, for example, the civil rights, tax and antitrust divisions, the criminal divisions, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and all U.S. attorneys. In short, a broad array of policy and law-enforcement decisions that are critical not just to our legal system but to the Nation as a whole ultimately pass through the Deputy Attorney General.

This already critical and difficult post will be all the more important in the coming months due to the ongoing investigations into the alleged corruption of the election process by the Clinton Administration. The current appearance is that the Justice Department, under the leadership or lack thereof of Attorney General Reno, has succumbed to political pressure on those investigations. No independent counsel has been appointed, and the Justice Department has been regularly issuing bizarre press releases on the Senate hearings on the campaign fundraising scandal. Further, there is increasing disagreement between the Justice Department and the FBI (the FBI has been cooperative in the Senate's investigation).

Our hope and expectation is that Mr. Holder will be able to resist efforts to politicize law enforcement, whether those efforts come from the Attorney General, the White House, or any other source. He has prosecuted corrupt officials in the past, regardless of party or power, and we expect him to have the same courage and independence when he serves as Deputy Attorney General. We are pleased to have the opportunity to vote for this nominee.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to confirmation.